



January 7, 2020

CUDAHY RECEIVES \$1.2 MILLION FOR IMPROVING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

New grant will strengthen reproductive health access for Southeastern Wisconsin

Cudahy—The Cudahy Health Department announced the launch of a multi-faceted reproductive health program to increase access to reproductive health services, education and counseling. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services granted \$1.2 million to Cudahy to provide comprehensive health services such as family planning, routine preventative services and testing/treatment for STI's.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that STDs in the United State hit all-time highs in 2018, after five straight years of dramatic increases. Data at the local level are consistent with these national trends. "People with STI's often do not have symptoms and may not be aware they are passing on the disease. Additionally, untreated STI's can influence several poor health outcomes including infertility, premature births and cancer," said Health Officer Katie Lepak.

"The Cudahy Health Department's mission is to protect and promote the overall health and wellbeing of the community by recognizing the unique values and need of our diverse population. To fulfill our mission, we strive to address health gaps in our community," said Lepak. "Cudahy Health Department has a preventative, strategic plan to increase access to services for care related to reproductive health needs. In 2019, Cudahy launched an innovative Wisconsin-themed reproductive health campaign."

"The program will provide critical health services to families in Cudahy and Southeastern Wisconsin by empowering individuals to make informed choices," said Mayor Thomas Pavlic. "Strong families are essential for our communities to thrive."

For more information about Cudahy's Reproductive Health Programming: <u>FreeCondomsInCudahy.com</u>

For more information about Family Planning Only Services in Wisconsin: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/fpos/index.htm

For local information: http://www.cudahy-wi.gov/departments/health Facebook @CudahyHD

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